

Short Answer questions

Using your knowledge of European history, answer parts a and b below.

Historians have proposed various events as turning points in the development of liberal democracy in Europe, including:

- ♦ The Glorious Revolution
 - ♦ The French Revolution
 - ♦ The emergence of mass political parties in the late nineteenth century
 - ♦ The extension of woman suffrage after the First World War
- a) Briefly explain why ONE of the developments on the list above represents the most significant turning point. Provide at least ONE piece of evidence to support your explanation.
- b) Briefly explain why ONE of the other developments on the list above represents a less significant turning point than the one you selected in part A.

“Dear Marfa!

We are both wives of locomotive drivers at the steel plant. . . . You are always complaining that your family’s life is difficult. And why is that so? Because your husband does not fulfill the plan. He has frequent breakdowns on his locomotive and he always overconsumes fuel. Indeed, all the other locomotive drivers laugh at him. By contrast, my husband is known as a shock worker.* He and I are honored everywhere. At the store we get everything without having to wait in lines. We [just] moved to the new building for shock workers. Soon we will get an apartment with rugs, a radio, and other comforts. Now we are being assigned to a new store for shock workers and will receive double rations. . . . Therefore, I ask you, Marfa, to talk to your husband heart to heart. Explain to him that he just can’t go on working the way he has. Teach him to understand the words of comrade Stalin, that work is a matter of honor, valor, and heroism. . . . In conclusion, I’d like to say one thing. It’s pretty good to be the wife of a shock worker.”

Anna Kovaleva, wife of a steel worker at the new Soviet industrial city of Magnitogorsk, late 1930s

*a Soviet term for an exemplary worker who routinely exceeds production quotas

Answer both parts (a and b) below.

- a) Explain ONE Soviet economic policy that is reflected in the letter.
- b) Explain TWO ways in which the letter reflects Soviet ideology.